

MANFRED T. REETZ ET AL.  
USSN 09/831,566

--21. (Twice Amended) Additive-stabilized, 100% water-soluble metal oxide colloids having particle sizes ranging from 0.5 - 5 nm, comprising at least one metal of groups VIb, VIIb, VIII, Ib or IIb of the Periodic Table, and stabilized by at least one water-soluble additive capable of stabilizing said colloids.--

--41. (Once Amended) A process for fixing colloids onto solid supports, said process comprising preparing colloids by the process according to claim 38, and treating solid oxidic or non-oxidic solid materials with an aqueous solution of the colloids.--

--44. (Once Amended) A process for immobilizing colloids, said process comprising preparing colloids by the process according to claim 38, and incorporating said colloids into sol-gel materials.--

#### CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If entry and consideration of the amendments above requires an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee(s) due in this connection to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

#### ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.